

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for upgrading at least one of a plurality of computer programs stored on ~~an application~~ a server computer in a distributed computing environment, said method comprising:

preventing said ~~application~~ server computer from servicing requests for an upgrade-ready computer program while permitting said ~~application~~ server computer to service client requests for other computer programs during upgrading of said upgrade-ready computer program on said server computer.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

(a) preventing said ~~application~~ server computer from receiving any new requests for said computer program;

(b) waiting until all of said ~~application server's~~ server computer's current requests for said computer program have ended;

(c) acknowledging completion of upgrading of said computer program; and

(d) permitting said ~~application server~~ computer to receive any new requests for said computer program.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein step (a) comprises the step of:
- (e) sending a signal to a router to instruct said router to stop routing requests for said computer program to said ~~application server~~ computer.
4. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said signal in step (e) comprises an identification code identifying said computer program.
5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said identification code comprises a universal resource locator.
6. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said identification code comprises a filename.
7. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein step (d) comprises the step of:
- (f) sending a signal to a router to instruct said router to begin routing requests for said computer program to said ~~application server~~ computer.
8. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said signal in step (f) includes an identification code identifying said computer program.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein step (e) comprises the step of:
- (g) maintaining a server list, said server list identifying a computer program

and an ~~application~~ server computer for satisfying a request for said computer program; and

(h) identifying said computer program and said ~~application~~ server computer to said router.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said signal in step (f) comprises an identification code read from said server list.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:

(i) maintaining a session list of active client requests serviced by said ~~application~~ server computer, said session list identifying a client request and a computer program requested by said client.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein step (b) comprises the step of:

(j) referencing said session list.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, further comprising the step of:

(k) repeating steps (a) through (d) for a next ~~application~~ server computer storing said computer program.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein step (c) comprises the step of:

(l) receiving a signal from an application server upon completion of upgrading of said computer program at said ~~application server~~ computer.

15. (Canceled)

16. (Canceled)

17. (Currently Amended) A method for upgrading one of a plurality of computer programs stored on an ~~application a~~ server computer in a distributed computing environment, said method comprising the steps of:

(a) instructing a router to stop routing requests for said computer program to said ~~application server~~ computer while permitting said router to continue routing requests for other computer programs to said server computer;

(b) waiting until said ~~application server~~ computer is no longer supporting a current client request for said computer program;

(c) after completion of upgrading of said computer program, instructing said router to begin routing requests for said computer program to said ~~application server~~ computer.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein step (a) comprises sending a signal to said router identifying said computer program and said ~~application server~~ computer, said signal comprising information retrieved from a server list and identifying said computer program.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein step (b)

comprises receiving a signal from said ~~application~~ server computer, said ~~application~~ server computer maintaining a list of active client requests, said list identifying said computer program, said ~~application~~ server computer sending said signal when said list reflects no active client requests for said computer program.

20. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 17, wherein step (c) comprises sending a signal to said router identifying said computer program and said ~~application~~ server computer, said signal comprising information retrieved from a server list and identifying said computer program.

21. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein step (a) comprises:
(e) sending a signal to a router to instruct said router to stop routing requests for said computer program to said server computer while permitting said router to continue routing requests for other computer programs to said server computer.

22. (New) The method of claim 1, preventing said server computer from servicing requests for said upgrade-ready computer program comprises sending a signal to a router to instruct said router to stop routing requests for said computer program to said server computer while permitting said router to continue routing requests for other computer programs to said server computer.